

**Minutes of the 6 September 2011**  
**Regular Meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners**  
**Held at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Yancey County Courtroom**  
**Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, North Carolina**

Present at the 6 September 2011 meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners were Chairman Johnny Riddle, Commissioner Jill Austin, Commissioner Dale England, Commissioner Michele Presnell, Commissioner Marvin Holland, County Manager Nathan Bennett, Clerk to the Board Jason Robinson, Finance Director Lynne Hensley, Finance Officer Brandi Burleson, Jana Bartleson with the Yancey County Health Department, Chairperson of the Yancey Library Board Jody Higgins, members of the media, and members of the general public.

**Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Riddle called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence to remember the victims of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks. He then asked Reverend Jonathan England to deliver the invocation. The Board and audience also said the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Commissioner Holland. Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Austin. The vote to approve was unanimous. (Attachment A)

**Approval of the Minutes**

The Board next considered the minutes from the July 25<sup>th</sup> special meeting, the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Meeting, and the August 3<sup>rd</sup> special meeting. Commissioner Presnell made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Holland. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**Public Comment**

The first person to speak before the Board was Bill Grover. He spoke about the new security measures put in place to safeguard the public and employees. He strongly stated that he was against these measures and that if the Board didn't undo their votes then it would be war. The next person to speak before the Board was Betsy Solar. She too feels that the only reason that these security measures are being put in place is to deprive people of what she believes is their constitutional rights. The next person to speak before the Board was Carrie Darden. Mrs. Darden wanted to know where her and her family could go for help because the sheriff's department, Highway Patrol, and magistrate's office will do nothing to help them with their neighbor who they had videotaped but got put off by all of the law enforcement agencies. The next person to speak was Anthony Robinson, who once again proclaimed that a one world supremacist was upon Yancey County because of the security measures that have been implemented at the courthouse. He also decried the sewer system going to Micaville as another sign that the super rich were taking over our county and trying to drive out the little man. The next person to speak before the Board was Ray Fox who read a resolution from the Yancey Mitchell Tea Party asking for the Board of Commissioners to have additional public comment when the issue before the Board involved funds. The next person to speak before the Board was Benny Riddle. Mr. Riddle stated that he came before the Board on behalf of the organization of Western North Carolina Quality Deer Management. Mr. Riddle stated that his organization wants to put an education center for Wildlife Management at the Yancey Mitchell Landfill. He further stated that the Quality Deer Management organization would absorb all of the cost of the project but he would like to find out the feasibility of doing the project. Chairman Riddle asked if there was an agreement that the county could look over and decide if this was possible. Mr. Riddle stated that there is no real agreement that is official but there could be one developed. The Board took this proposition under consideration.

**Yancey Tennis Association**

The Board next heard from Jana Bartleson with the Yancey County Health Department and Yancey Tennis Association. Ms. Bartleson stated that she came on behalf of the people who would like to see the tennis courts at Lincoln Park turned back into tennis courts. Ms. Bartleson and Mr. David McIntosh, also with the Yancey Tennis Association gave the Board a brief history of the courts. They were originally built in 1976 with a recreation grant. The courts were used but came into a state of disrepair a few years ago and people came to the commissioners at that time and asked for the courts to be repaved. The repaving job was poorly done and it was decided to put sand on the courts and use it as an under 8 softball field. Ms. Bartleson and Mr. McIntosh stated that the Tennis Association would commit and raise \$5,000 to go toward this project. Discussion followed about the use of the field/courts now and what it would take to get them back up to par. Mr. McIntosh stated that the county needs a comprehensive recreation plan

to include all types of sports, tennis is one of those sports that everyone can play. Commissioner Holland stated that he was in favor of removing the sand and correcting a mistake. Chairman Riddle stated that he would like to talk to some more folks and come back in a month with a plan or decision. The Board took no action on this matter at this time but will revisit the issue in October.

#### **Resolution Remembering the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>**

Chairman Riddle next asked the Clerk to the Board to read aloud the resolution remembering the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks. Upon conclusion of the reading of the resolution Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner England. The vote to approve was unanimous. (Attachment B)

#### **Fireman Relief Fund**

The Board next heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett about the Fireman's Relief Fund. Mr. Bennett informed the Board that this fund is available to any fire fighter who is injured while performing his/her duties. In Yancey County these funds are managed by a local board for each department. According to Mr. Bennett these boards need to have two appointments from the county. The Firefighter's Association and the fire chiefs would like to see Bill Davis (2 year term) and Brandi Burleson (1 year term) appointed to these boards. Upon hearing from County Manager Bennett, Commissioner Austin made a motion to appoint Mr. Davis and Mrs. Burleson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holland and the vote to approve was unanimous.

#### **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Commissioner Appointment**

The Board next heard from County Manager Bennett about the desire of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) to have a commissioner to serve on that board. Commissioner Holland volunteered to be the commissioner representative on this board. Commissioner Presnell made the motion to appoint Commissioner Holland to this board and the motion was seconded by Commissioner England. The vote to approve was unanimous.

#### **Regional Library Board Appointment**

The Board next heard from Jody Higgins, Chairperson of the Yancey County Library Board. Ms. Higgins gave the Board an update about the new library and how much it is being utilized. Ms. Higgins also stated that she would like to recommend to the Board to appoint Judy Bartlett to the Avery, Mitchell, Yancey Regional Library Board due to the fact that one of the former board members is now an employee at the library. Upon hearing from Ms. Higgins, Commissioner England made a motion to appoint Judy Bartlett to the AMY Regional Library Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Presnell and the vote to approve was unanimous.

#### **County Manager Business**

The Board next heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett. Mr. Bennett gave the Board an update of the DSS renovation project. The project is currently ahead of schedule and the DSS offices should be ready to move in by November. Mr. Bennett also updated the Board about the Comprehensive Recreation Grounds (CRG). The county is now working with the apparent low bidder to work out financial arrangements. Mr. Bennett also told the Board that the new security measures were ready to go live next week.

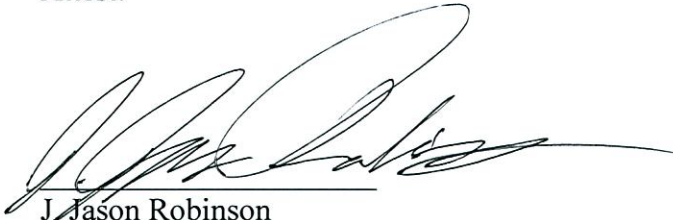
#### **Commissioner Comments**

Chairman Riddle then opened up the floor for any of the commissioners who had comments. Commissioner Holland stated that he would like to know if there was anything in the old Pensacola Fire Department building that the county could salvage. Also, Commissioner Presnell wanted County Manager Bennett to find out what happens to the money that insurance agencies give if a fire department is called out to a fire. Chairman Riddle also noted that Barbara Webster had been asking about the possibility of putting an observatory out at the former landfill.

#### **Adjournment**

Having no further business Commissioner Presnell made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Commissioner England. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Attest:



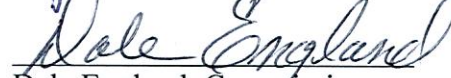
J. Jason Robinson  
Clerk to the Board  
(county seal)



Johnny Riddle, Chairman




Jill Austin, Commissioner



Dale England, Commissioner

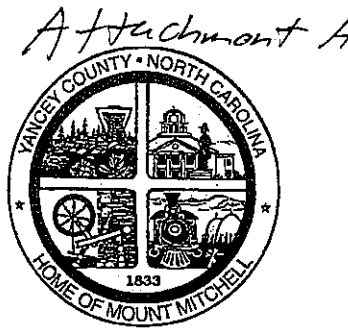


Michele Presnell, Commissioner



Marvin Holland, Commissioner

COUNTYMANAGER  
Nathan Bennett



COMMISSIONERS  
Jill Austin  
Dale England  
Marvin Holland  
Michele Presnell  
Johnny Riddle

## YANCEY COUNTY

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### AGENDA

#### YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

September 6, 2011  
7:00 P.M.

- I. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Johnny Riddle
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Public Comment
  - a. Benny Riddle – Yancey-Mitchell Landfill
- V. Yancey Tennis Association – Jana Bartleson
- VI. **RESOLUTION** – National Moment of Remembrance of 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11
- VII. N.C. Firemen's Relief Fund – Neil McCurry, Yancey County Fire Marshal
  - a. County Appointees to Local Boards (Brandi Burleson and Bill Davis)
- VIII. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – Appointment of Commissioner to Council
- IX. Library Board Appointments – Jody Higgins, Chair, Yancey Library Board
  - a. Yancey County Local Library Board (2 appointments)
  - b. AMY Regional Library Board (1 appointment)
- X. County Manager Business
- XI. Commissioner's Business
- XII. Adjourn

Attachment B



## RESOLUTION

IN RECOGNITION OF  
***YANCEY COUNTY JOINING the  
NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11***

**WHEREAS**, the Yancey County Board of County Commissioners expresses their support of the United States Senate regarding coming together as a Nation and ceasing all work or other activity for a moment of remembrance beginning at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on September 11, 2011, in honor of the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks committed against the United States on September 11, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, at 8:46 a.m., on September 11, 2001, hijacked American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the upper portion of the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, 17 minutes later, at 9:03 a.m., hijacked United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center; and

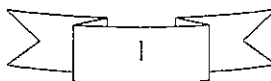
**WHEREAS**, at 9:37 a.m., the west wall of the Pentagon was hit by hijacked American Airlines Flight 77, the impact of which caused immediate and catastrophic damage to the headquarters of the Department of Defense; and

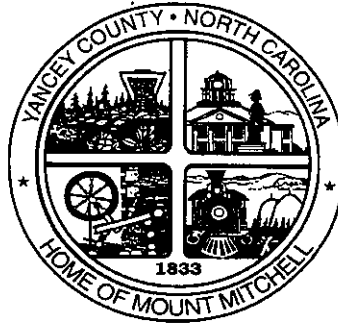
**WHEREAS**, at approximately 10:00 a.m., the passengers and crew of hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 acted heroically to retake control of the airplane and thwart the taking of additional American lives by crashing the airliner in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and, in doing so, gave their lives to save countless others; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 3,000 innocent civilians were killed in the heinous attacks of September 11, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, tens of thousands of individuals narrowly escaped the attacks at the Pentagon and World Trade Center and, as witnesses to this tragedy, are forever changed; and

**WHEREAS**, countless fire departments, police departments, first responders, governmental officials, workers, emergency medical personnel, and volunteers responded immediately and heroically to those horrific events; and





**WHEREAS**, the Fire Department of New York suffered 343 fatalities on September 11, 2001, the largest loss of life of any emergency response agency in United States history; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port Authority Police Department suffered 37 fatalities in the attacks, the largest loss of life of any police force in United States history in a single day; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York Police Department suffered 23 fatalities as a result of the terrorist attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of that day on public health continues through 2011, as nearly 90,000 people are at risk of or suffering from negative health effects as a result of the events of September 11, 2001, including 14,000 workers and 2,400 community residents who are sick, and tens of thousands of others whose health is being monitored; and

**WHEREAS**, 10 years later, the people of the United States and people around the world continue to mourn the tremendous loss of innocent life on that fateful day; and

**WHEREAS**, 10 years later, thousands of men and women in the United States Armed Forces remain in harm's way defending the United States against those who seek to threaten the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on the 10th anniversary of this tragic day, the thoughts of the people of the United States are with all of the victims of the events of September 11, 2001 and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, the lives of Americans were changed forever on September 11, 2001, when events threatened the American way of life; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, Congress and the President joined together to designate September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance under the Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13; 123 Stat. 1460); and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2009 and 2010, President Obama issued Proclamation 8413 (74 Fed. Reg. 47045) and Proclamation 8559 (75 Fed. Reg. 56463) proclaiming September 11, 2009, and September 11, 2010, respectively, as Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance; and

**WHEREAS**, September 11 will never, and should never, be just another day in the hearts and minds of all people of the United States;



**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Yancey County Board of County Commissioners:

- 1) Recognizes September 11, 2001, as a day of solemn commemoration of the events of September 11, 2001, and a day to come together as a Nation; and
- 2) Offers its deepest and most sincere condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks; and
- 3) Honors the heroic service, actions, and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and countless others who aided the innocent victims of those attacks and, in doing so, bravely risked and often gave their own lives; and
- 4) Recognizes the valiant service, actions, and sacrifices of United States personnel, including members of the United States Armed Forces, the United States intelligence agencies, the United States diplomatic service, homeland security and law enforcement personnel, and their families, who have given so much, including their lives and well-being, to support the cause of freedom and defend the security of the United States; and
- 5) Reaffirms that the people of the United States will never forget the challenges our country endured on and since September 11, 2001, and will work tirelessly to defeat those who attacked the United States; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that on the 10th anniversary of this tragic day in United States history the Yancey County Board of County Commissioners calls upon all of the people and institutions of Yancey County to observe a moment of remembrance on September 11, 2011; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Yancey County Board of County Commissioners encourages the observance of the moment of remembrance to last for 1 minute beginning at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time by, to the maximum extent practicable, ceasing all work or other activity; and marking the moment in an appropriate manner, including by ringing bells, blowing whistles, or sounding sirens.

**ADOPTED** this the 6<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 2011.

ATTEST:

J. Jason Robinson,  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners



Johnny Riddle, Chairman